

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
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R 241610Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7977
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0997

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV WA SF RH ZA
SUBJ: AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S MEETING WITH FONMIN MWALE

1. AMBASSADOR YOUNG HELD FORMAL MEETING MARCH 24 WITH
ZAMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MWALE. AFTER OPENING PLEASANTRIES
AND GENERAL COMMENTS, AMBASSADOR YOUNG TOLD MWALE THAT A
MAJOR REASON FOR HIS VISIT TO ZAMBIA WAS TO ATTEMPT TO
ENCOURAGE FURTHER MOVEMENT TOWARD A SETTLEMENT OF THE
NAMIBIAN QUESTION IN THE CONTEXT OF THE CONTACT GROUP
PROPOSALS. THE AMBASSADOR POINTED OUT THAT ALL THE
CONCESSIONS MADE BY SWAPO WERE DESIGNED TO GIVE THEM THEIR
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COUNTRY, WHILE CONCESSIONS BY SOUTH AFRICAN MEANT LOSSES
BY THE ILLEGAL RULERS. THE SOONER SWAPO AGREED TO THE
CG PROPOSALS, THE BETTER OFF THEY WOULD BE AND THE SOONER
THE MASSIVE PRESENCE OF SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS WOULD BE
ELIMINATED.

2. MWALE SAID HE GOT THE POINT BUT WAS CONCERNED BY THE

APPARENT LACK OF MOVEMENT ON THE PROPOSALS SINCE THE PROXIMITY TALKS. AMBASSADOR YOUNG REPLIED THAT THE PAPER ITSELF WAS NOT IMPORTANT, RATHER IT WAS THE PRINCIPLES INVOLVED AND THE REMOVAL OF THE SOUTH AFRICANS WHICH COULD COME ABOUT BY AGREEMENT TO THE PROPOSALS. HE POINTED OUT THAT DETAILS COULD BE MORE ADVANTAGEOUSLY DISCUSSED BY SWAPO ONCE THERE WAS A UN PRESENCE IN NAMIBIA. MWALE SAID THE POINT WAS WELL TAKEN AND HE AGREED WITH THE APPROACH AND THE AMBASSADOR'S ANALYSIS. HE INDICATED THAT ZAMBIA WOULD TALK TO SWAPO ALONG THESE LINES.

3. THE DISCUSSION NEXT TURNED TO RHODESIA. THE FOREIGN MINISTER SAID HE WAS WORRIED BY THE PRESENT SITUATION AND WANTED TO KNOW WHERE THINGS ARE GOING. AMBASSADOR YOUNG TOLD HIM THAT THE US WILL NOT HELP SMITH'S EFFORTS TOWARD AN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT, AND NEITHER WOULD THE BRITISH. MWALE MENTIONED THE POSSIBILITY OF MULTINATIONALS PROVIDING MONEY. THE AMBASSADOR SAID HE DID NOT THINK THAT WAS A MAJOR CONCERN, BUT SOME MONEY MIGHT START TO SLIP THROUGH FROM THE MORE CONSERVATIVE OIL-PRODUCING STATES.

4. AMBASSADOR YOUNG POINTED OUT THAT THE KEY TO RHODESIA) WAS SOUTH AFRICA BUT IT WAS NOT EASY TO APPLY PRESSURE. AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION IN NAMIBIA COULD HAVE AN IMPORTANT EFFECT IN THIS REGARD. IT WOULD BE CONFIDENTIAL

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MUCH MORE DIFFICULT FOR SOUTH AFRICA TO SUPPORT AN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT IN RHODESIA IF AN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT IN NAMIBIA HAD BEEN SHORT-CIRCUITED. MWALE ONCE AGAIN SAID HE WOULD SEE WHAT HE COULD DO WITH SWAPO.
LOW

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